

# Course Syllabus

## International Relations

### PSCI 3328 – Fall 2009

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#### Course Information

Prof. Brandon Kinne	Class: Monday and Wednesday, 4:00-5:15
E-mail: brandon.kinne@utd.edu	Location: CN 1.304
Office: GR 3.824	Teaching Assistant: Narcisse Tiky
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:30-3:30	TA Email: tiky6@utdallas.edu

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#### Course Prerequisites

The readings and lectures assume that students have taken at least one prior course in political science, political economy, comparative politics, or a similar subject.

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#### Course Description

This course introduces students to the major concepts, theories, and empirical puzzles in international relations. We will cover such topics as:

- Different approaches to analyzing and understanding world events
  - Key actors in world politics, from states, to multinational corporations, to transnational activist groups
  - Causes of cooperation and conflict
  - International economic interests and their influence on conflict
  - The principles of international organization, international law, and humanitarian intervention
  - Emerging challenges in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, including globalization, terrorism, the rise of China, the Iraq War, and the problem of “rogue states”
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#### Student Learning Objectives

This course has two objectives. First, students will learn about issues related to the subject matter of the course and will increase their knowledge of world politics. Second, in addition to “information processing,” students will use the concepts covered in the course to examine and interpret world political events in a critical, systematic way. The course’s exams and quizzes are meant to assess how well students meet these objectives.

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## Required Textbooks and Materials

- Mingst, Karen A., and Jack L. Snyder. 2008. *Essential Readings in World Politics*. Third edition. New York: Norton.
- Russett, Bruce, Harvey Starr, and David Kinsella. 2010. *World Politics: The Menu for Choice*. Ninth edition. Boston: Wadsworth.

The reading load is fairly light, averaging 40-50 pages per week. The readings for Wednesday classes will generally be shorter than those for Monday classes. Our primary textbook is *World Politics: The Menu for Choice*. A course reader, *Essential Readings in World Politics*, will be used to supplement the textbook readings. We will also occasionally incorporate outside materials, such as magazines, newspapers, or journal articles. Be aware that *all the readings are equally important*. Even those readings not from your textbook can (and will) be used for questions on exams and quizzes.

There may be minor adjustments to the reading assignments over the course of the semester. In such cases, I will post an updated syllabus and make an in-class announcement.

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## Course & Instructor Policies

Class participation accounts for 10% of your grade. Attendance is mandatory. The lectures will not summarize the readings but will instead synthesize course materials, clarify key concepts, introduce ideas not covered in the readings, and, most importantly, help students to develop a conceptual framework for thinking about world politics. All lecture content is fair game for exams and quizzes. My lecture notes will not be posted, so the only way to ensure that you're current on all potential exam material is to attend the lectures.

In addition to attendance, participation requires regular contributions to classroom discussions. While this course is not intended as a survey of current events, the vast majority of what we study will bear directly on real-world events. We will frequently discuss how the course content helps us to better understand contemporary world politics. As always, quality of input is more important than quantity.

There will be four quizzes during the semester, as indicated in the class schedule below. Each quiz will last 10-15 minutes and will consist either of multiple choice questions or short definitions of key terms. Questions and terms will be drawn from the lectures and/or readings, and will focus on recently covered material.

Finally, there will be two exams, which together constitute 70% of your grade. Exams will be a combination of definitions, short answers, and multiple choice questions.

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## Grading Policy

- Four in-class quizzes (5% each)
- Exam 1 (30%)
- Exam 2 (40%)

- Class participation (10%)
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## Part I – The International System

AUGUST 24 – INTRODUCTION

AUGUST 26 – LEVELS OF ANALYSIS

- RSK pp. 3-25

AUGUST 31 – IR THEORY I: LIBERALISM, REALISM, CONSTRUCTIVISM

- RSK pp. 27-34
- MS pp. 4-11 (Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories”)
- MS pp. 26-28 (Wilson, “The Fourteen Points”)
- MS pp. 56-60 (Morgenthau, “A Realist Theory of International Politics” and “Political Power”)

SEPTEMBER 2 – IR THEORY II: BEHAVIORISM, RADICALISM

- RSK pp. 34-43
- MS pp. 18-24 (Lenin, from *Imperialism, The Highest Stage of Capitalism*)

SEPTEMBER 7 – LABOR DAY, NO CLASS!

SEPTEMBER 9 – THE STATE AS ACTOR

- RSK pp. 51-66
- MS pp. 176-195 (Krasner, “Sharing Sovereignty”)

SEPTEMBER 14 – STRUCTURE, POLARITY, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF POWER

- RSK pp. 75-103

SEPTEMBER 16 – SOURCES OF STATE POWER

- QUIZ 1
- RSK pp. 111-122

SEPTEMBER 21 – NON-STATE ACTORS

- RSK pp. 66-73
- MS pp. 279-290 (Keck and Sikkink, “Transnational Advocacy Networks” and “Human Rights Advocacy Networks”)

## Part II – The Three Areas of IR: Security, Political Economy, and Organization

### *International Security*

SEPTEMBER 23 – WAR, CONFLICT, POLICY

- RSK pp. 193-208
- Film: *The Fog of War*

SEPTEMBER 28 – WAR, CONFLICT, POLICY CONT.

- MS 334-337 (Clausewitz, “War As an Instrument of Policy”)
- Film cont.

SEPTEMBER 30 – ARMS RACES AND THE SECURITY DILEMMA

- RSK pp. 227-248

OCTOBER 5 – DETERRENCE AND ARMS CONTROL

- RSK pp. 249-260

OCTOBER 7 – EXAM 1

### *International Political Economy*

OCTOBER 12 – POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

- RSK pp. 333-342
- MS 479-486 (Gilpin, “The Nature of Political Economy”)

OCTOBER 14 – ECONOMICS AND SECURITY

- RSK pp. 342-362

OCTOBER 19 – TRADE AND INTERDEPENDENCE

- RSK pp. 363-395

OCTOBER 21 – THE NORTH-SOUTH GAP

- **QUIZ 2**
- RSK 431-452

*International Organization*

OCTOBER 26 – THE EUROPEAN UNION AND SUPRANATIONALISM

- RSK pp. 397-411
- MS 273-279 (Moravcsik, “A Too Perfect Union? Why Europe Said No”)
- Background on the EU (skim)
  - <http://europa.eu/abc/index.en.htm>
  - <http://europa.eu/abc/12lessons/index.en.htm>

OCTOBER 28 – THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

- RSK pp. 287-298
- UN Charter, Chapter VII (read)
  - <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter7.shtml>

NOVEMBER 2 – INTERNATIONAL LAW AND WORLD ORDER

- RSK pp. 261-279

- MS pp. 310-315 (Kissinger, “The Pitfalls of Universal Jurisdiction”)
- MS pp. 316-319 (Roth, “The Case for Universal Jurisdiction”)

#### NOVEMBER 4 – HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION

- **QUIZ 3**
- RSK pp. 279-287
- MS pp. 290-310 (Power, “Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen”)

### Part III: New Developments and Challenges

#### NOVEMBER 9 – THE LIBERAL PEACE

- RSK pp. 299-329

#### NOVEMBER 11 – CIVIL WAR

- RSK pp. 208-218

#### NOVEMBER 16 – TERRORISM

- RSK pp. 218-225
- Sageman, Marc. “The Next Generation of Terror,” in *Foreign Policy*, March/April 2008, pp. 36-42.

#### NOVEMBER 18 – SOFT POWER

- RSK pp. 105-111
- Nye, Joseph. “The Decline of America’s Soft Power,” in *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2004, pp. 16-20.

#### NOVEMBER 23 – GLOBALIZATION

- RSK pp. 418-429
- MS pp. 535-542 (Naím, “The Five Wars of Globalization”)

NOVEMBER 25 – THE RISE OF CHINA

- QUIZ 4
- Readings TBA

NOVEMBER 30 – IRAQ, IRAN, AND NORTH KOREA

- Readings TBA

DECEMBER 2 – A CLASH OF CIVILIZATIONS?

- RSK pp. 499-506
- MS pp. 203-209 (Huntington, “Clash of Civilizations?”)
- MS pp. 598-601 (Sen, “Universal Truths: Human Rights and the Westernizing Illusion”)

DECEMBER 7 – EXAM 2

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## **Technical Support**

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: [assist@utdallas.edu](mailto:assist@utdallas.edu) or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

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## **Field Trip Policies**

### **Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities**

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address

[http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel\\_Risk\\_Activities.htm](http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm). Additional information is available from the office of the school dean. Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.

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## **Student Conduct & Discipline**

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD printed publication, A to Z Guide, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the Rules and Regulations, Series 50000, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's Handbook of Operating Procedures. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

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## **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline.

Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

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### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow the institution's copyright policy (Policy Memorandum 84-I.3-46). For more information about the fair use exemption, see <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm>

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### **Email Use**

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

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### **Withdrawal from Class**

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

## **Student Grievance Procedures**

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's Handbook of Operating Procedures.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

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## **Incomplete Grade Policy**

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

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## **Disability Services**

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is: The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22 PO Box 830688 Richardson, Texas 75083-0688 (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY) [disabilityservice@utdallas.edu](mailto:disabilityservice@utdallas.edu)

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommo-

dition. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

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### **Religious Holy Days**

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated. The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

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*These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*